



Photo report on the Science Forum 2016 field visit to Africa RISING sites in Basona Worena, Ethiopia

15 April 2016



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Introduction

Africa RISING in the Ethiopian highlands has been conducting on-farm action research on more than 18 crop, livestock feed, water, land management and high value fruit tree interventions. The project also carried out exploratory studies on gender, nutrition, epidemiology, technology adoption, livestock marketing and value chains. It regularly organizes learning visits, field-days, training and innovation platform meetings to share knowledge.

On 15 April 2016, a field visit was organized for participants in the ISPC Science Forum. The 20+ participants travelled to Basona Worena. They visited:

- A women farmer (Mrs. Desta) who participates in on-farm potato, oat-vetch and yield gap research interventions
- Potato seed produced by Mush irrigation users cooperative and kept in Diffuse Light Storage for sale
- Feed resources innovations (feed trough, crop residue storage and tree lucerne) at Mr. Akalewolde's homestead
- Run-off plots, soil and water conservation interventions and activities that are engaging landless youth groups.



Science Forum 2016 participants visiting Africa RISING research kebeles in Basona Worena, Amhara region



Peter Thorne (Africa RISING Ethiopia project coordinator) introduces the project



Desta, on the left, demonstrates seed potato stored in DLS to one of the visitors



Desta's seeds kept for the next season's oat-vetch feed research intervention



A visitor asks Desta how her life has changed due to her participation in Africa RISING



Desta served special bread locally called “Difo” as a symbol of welcoming guests



Community owned potato storage at Mush village, Basona Worena



Visitors discuss how the irrigation cooperative is working, and its future plans



Visitors thank the communities for sharing their knowledge and spending their time with the group



Tree lucerne grown around homesteads for feed and other products and services at Salasfa village, Basona Worena



Crop residue stored using Africa RISING improved storage technology at Salasfa village, Basona



Feed trough introduced by Africa RISING project at Salasfa village in Basona Worena



Temesgen Alene (Africa RISING site coordinator) demonstrates mix of tree lucerne and crop residues that a farmer feeds using feed trough at Salasfa village, Basona Worena



Tesfaye Yakob (PhD student through CIAT) explains soil and nutrient loss studies from 4 land use systems in Gudo Beret



Melkamu Derseh (postdoctoral scientist) observes how traditional crop residue storage system is exposed to wastage by rain and other factors



Partial view of Geda model and collaborative watershed with various soil and water conservation structures at Basona Worena



Communities spread compost (A) and trenches retained water (B) during the short rainy season at model and collaborative watershed



A woman farmer at Ginda Beret village making “Mugid” (made from soil and cow dung) to cover “Mitad” – a clay made oven used to bake injera



Africa RISING CGIAR partners in Ethiopia





Local partners- Ethiopia

- **Academic institutions:**
 - Wachemo, Mekelle, Madawolabu, Debre Berhan and Hawassa universities; Maichew Agricultural College
- **Regional research organizations:**
 - Amhara Regional Agricultural Research Institute, Southern Agricultural Research Institute, Tigray Agricultural Research Institute, Oromia Agricultural Research Institute
- **Federal research organizations:**
 - Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research, Ethiopian Public Health Institute
- **Offices of Agriculture:**
 - Endamekoni (Tigray), Basona Worena (Amhara), Lemo (SNNRP) and Sinana (Oromia)
- **Private entrepreneurs**
- **NGOs:** GRAD, Hundie, SOS Sahel, Sunarma
- **Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA)**
- **Innovation laboratories:** ILSSI, IPM IL, Power Africa



Credits

Produced by Africa RISING Project in Ethiopia
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Photos: Kindu Mekonnen

Our appreciation goes to CGIAR team members and local partner organizations including farmers in Africa RISING project sites in Basona



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